

Middlebury Friends Meeting

October
2016

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“We all have the same God, we just serve him differently. Rivers, lakes, ponds, streams, oceans all have different names, but they all contain water. So do religions have different names, and they all contain truth, expressed in different ways forms and times. It doesn’t matter whether you’re a Muslim, a Christian, or a Jew. When you believe in God, you should believe that all people are part of one family. If you love God, you can’t love only some of his children.”

— MUHAMMAD ALI

OCTOBER 2016

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
○ 16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
● 30	31					

QUAKER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Fri, Sept. 30	1-7 PM	Community Supper
Sun, Oct. 2	11:30 AM	Fellowship Committee
Sun, Oct. 2	7:00 PM	Tea & Talk about <i>Active Hope</i> at Tom Baskett's
Mon, Oct. 3	4:30 PM	Experiment with Light gathering at the home of shulamith eagle (see note below!)
Sat, Oct. 8	9-12 noon	Spiral of Empowerment workshop at CSAC Catamount Park
Sun, Oct. 9	8:30 AM	Worship and Study
Sun, Oct. 9	9:00 AM	Earthcare Committee at Havurah
Tues, Oct. 11	4:00 PM	COSA
Sat/Sun Oct. 15/16		Vermont Interfaith Power and Light conference, "Deep Change for Climate Justice," White River Jct.
Sun, Oct. 16	8:30 AM	Monthly meeting with a concern for business
Wed, Oct. 20	8:30 AM	ICAN meeting Weybridge Congregational Church

THE EXPERIMENT WITH LIGHT: A GUIDED MEDITATION IN QUAKER WORSHIP

You can experience a guided Quaker meditation on Monday, October 3, at 4:30 PM. "Experiment With Light" is hosted by shulamith eagle and Jean Rosenberg and happens approximately every two weeks in Middlebury.

Quaker scholar Rex Ambler has studied Quaker worship from its beginnings. He found that early Quakers worshipped in several different ways. "Waiting worship" was a daily silent listening for the word of God coming from within. But what exactly did they do during this kind of worship? In the 1990s, Ambler discovered the sorts of ways and questions that early Quakers used for this daily worship. He wrote a guided meditation based on these practices, called "Experiment With Light."

During about 45 minutes, the meditation prompts lead us to center down, open to the Light shining on our lives, direct our attention to areas of struggle or confusion or need (if we wish to), realize the reality illuminated, and stand with this truth in the Light as the Spirit comforts and transforms us.

For more information, see the website www.experiment-with-light.org.uk and see also Rex Ambler's books, *Truth of the Heart*, and *Light to Live By*. Or you can ask shulamith eagle at 802/324-9149, or Jean Rosenberg at 388-6453. For future dates and directions to our meditation, contact shulamith or Jean.

NEWS OF QUAKERLY INTEREST

Collected by Lucy McKeon
lucym@shoreham.net



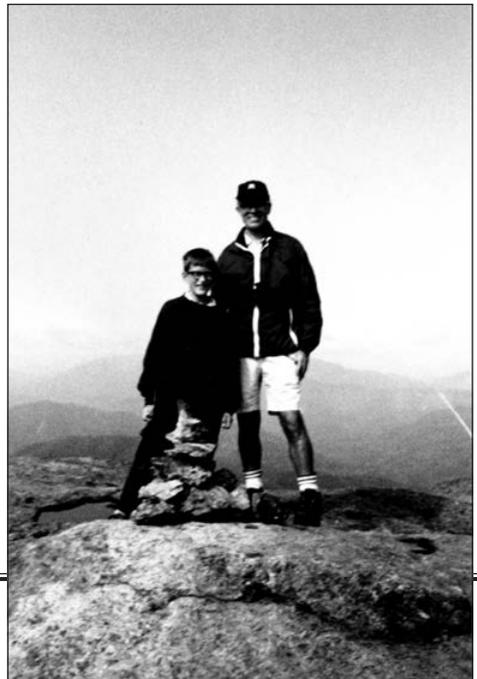
ALICE MAE PEABODY has some of her artwork on display at the Bixby Library in Vergennes. Her tiny polymer figures are in the hexagonal glass display case until mid-October.

FAITH LOWELL writes that after many months following the fire which destroyed her home, construction has started on her house and is moving along at a “pretty fast clip”!

LAURINE WARFIELD, CHERYL MITCHELL’s mom, is on the cover of the HomeShare Vermont newsletter this month, along with a lovely story about her and her housemate ALEX TRAXLER, who was a student of PRISCILLA BAKER. The next page features RUTH BIRENBAUM, BECKY STRATTON and MANYA DICKENSON, all of whom are Addison County Volunteers. Lauraine is also featured on the new video for the organization formerly known as CVAA. <https://vimeo.com/179274017/29f8961bbc>

WIN COLWELL has finished climbing the 46 Adirondack High Peaks, an endeavor he began in 1966 at the age of 9. Although TED was not able to be along as JOANNA and Win climbed 4,347 foot Allen Mountain on September 16, a photo from 50 years ago of father and son on top of Mt. Marcy came along to complete the circle. Allen proved to be a long hike; they started at dawn and returned their tired bones to the car in the last light of day.

—Lucy



MEMORIAL MINUTE FOR E. KIRK ROBERTS & JANET JOHNSON ROBERTS

Middlebury (VT) Friends Meeting notes with sadness the passing of E. Kirk Roberts, on January 20, 2015, and Janet Johnson Roberts on January 30, 2016. Kirk grew up in the Moorestown (NJ) Monthly Meeting and Jan in the Rich Square (IN) Monthly Meeting. They met at Earlham College from which they both graduated in 1949. In 1952, after Kirk earned a PhD in chemistry at Harvard University, he and Jan moved to Middlebury, Vt where Kirk taught chemistry, sometimes as chair of his department, at Middlebury College. While in Middlebury Jan worked at the Counseling Service of Addison County where she created a residential home for women with developmental challenges as part of the state's move to mainstream and integrate developmentally delayed people in the community. Upon retirement in 1983, Kirk and Jan moved to Palo Alto, CA.

Soon after their arrival in Middlebury, in 1953, Jan and Kirk invited interested students and community members to worship in the manner of Friends in their home, and, at times, on campus. They met fairly regularly until 1965 when the group stopped meeting. In 1969, as Kirk and Jan prepared to leave for a sabbatical year, another Quaker couple arrived on campus. They responded to requests from students, disturbed by the escalation of the Viet Nam War, to restart the worship group. Placed under the care of Burlington Monthly Meeting, this preparative meeting, started by the Robertses in 1953, eventually grew into the full-fledged Middlebury Friends Meeting in 1976.

Although Kirk and Jan left Middlebury in 1983, their New England Quaker legacy remains strong in the form of Middlebury Friends Meeting, which continues to provide a spiritual home for Middlebury Quakers, college students and other seekers who worship there.

Middlebury Friends Meeting

Monthly Meeting for Business

18 September, 2016

Clerk: Spence Putnam

Recording Clerk: Priscilla Baker

Present were Sas Carey, Karen Nawn-Fahey, Don Peabody, Priscilla Baker, Fran Putnam, and Grace McGrath

16.09.01 Monthly meeting opened after a moment of silence with a reading from *Active Hope* by Joanna Macey and Chris Johnstone

16.09.02 July 24 2016 minutes were accepted as printed in the newsletter.

16.09.03 Treasurer's Report (Karen Nawn-Fahey, as of August 31, 2016)

During July and August, the Meeting had donations of \$1646.95 (including \$116.95 for copies of *Active Hope*).

During July and August, Meeting expenditures totaled \$1790.59. This includes \$160 for childcare, \$25 for MACA dues (to be paid in January from now on), \$700 for NEYM, \$125 to NWQM, \$650 for Havurah (increase in rent), and \$130.59 for copies of *Active Hope*. When these checks clear, the bank balance should be \$4260.40.

1. The Finance Committee met on Aug. 23 and makes the following recommendation: If MFM agrees to join Jubilee Vermont, we should send them \$50, an amount that reflects the recommendation by Jubilee VT that member organizations pay \$1/member. All agreed to join Jubilee VT and send \$50.
2. Karen will follow up with the State of VT to clarify tax implications regarding the two people with whom we contract for children's program support.

16.09.04 Earthcare Committee (Fran Putnam)

1. *Active Hope* Project: 16 people attended the first session on Part I of *Active Hope*. A goal of the program is to move people from awareness-with-despair to finding ways to take action to combat climate change. Three more events will be held. Enrollment, capped at 15 participants, has begun for the October workshop called "The Spiral of Empowerment." Friends are encouraged to sign up either at Meeting or by email to Fran Putnam.
2. Interfaith Climate Action Network (ICAN): The solar installation by ACORN that ICAN was hoping to help sponsor was not approved by the Public Service Board. ACORN will look for another site and apply again.

ICAN is working with Middlebury Area Clergy Association (MACA) on a day-long workshop for the wider community on the topic of Joanna Macy's *Active Hope* book. Tentative date is Saturday, January 21 at the CVUUS, to be facilitated

by Marc Lapin. This idea originated in our Meeting through the initiative of Jean Rosenberg.

16.09.05 Committee on Outreach and Social Action - COSA (Don Peabody)

1. Mostly focused on preparations for Community Supper on Sept. 30. Will continue to recruit volunteers and supplies.
2. Journey of Healing: What kind of follow up and who will lead this? Further discussion and possible action TBD.

FOLLOW UP: COSA will contact Beatrice Parwatikar, from Jubilee VT, about a talk with a larger group of Friends. A suggestion was made to offer this to the larger community. COSA will pursue this.

16.09.06 Worship and Study Committee (Priscilla Baker)

1. The next Friendly Forum will take place on September 25 when Leigh will lead an exploration of poetry and spirituality.
2. Priscilla drafted and read a Memorial Minute for Jan and Kirk Roberts who died in January 2015 (Kirk) and January 2016 (Jan). With a couple changes, the minute was approved to be published in the MFM newsletter and sent to NWQM and NEYM.

16.09.07 Fellowship Committee: (Spence Putnam)

1. A successful but thinly attended summer outing at Branbury Park was held on the rain date of August 21 featuring a great pot luck picnic, lawn games, conversation, and (for a few) swimming.
2. We have adopted a “light touch” in reminders about hospitality and greeting, which means the roster often is not filled. These duties get filled on an ad hoc basis, but we hope for wider participation.

FOLLOWUP: It was suggested to post a monthly notice via Listserv of upcoming events & greeter and hospitality providers

3. We have lightly revised the job descriptions for hospitality and greeting.
4. We have tentative plans for a potluck in October.

16.09.08 Pastoral Care Committee (Sas Carey)

1. Noted that MFM participant Jullianne Holland died, at her home, on August 13, 2016. Pastoral Care provided food for family visitors during her last days. It was approved that up to \$150 from the PCC line item will be used to cover this.
2. Emergency Notification and confidentiality: PCC has drafted a form for Friends to fill out with specific information about whom to contact in case of an emergency. This will be sent out, with an explanation, on the Listserv, as well as appear in the MFM newsletter. Paper copies will be made available.

16.09.09 Middlebury Area Clergy Asso. (Spence) MACA discussed with the Addison Independent submitting a weekly column written by local faith groups. The paper is interested in publishing such a column. Friends expressed interest in possibly participating in this new endeavor and agreed that Worship and Study should oversee this.

16.09.09 NEYM 2016 Sessions: (Spence) A report from the Annual sessions will be discussed at next monthly meeting. There are several topics to be considered for further discussion and action within meetings.

Meeting closed after a brief moment of silence.

MIDDLEBURY FRIENDS MEETING

PO Box 1026
Middlebury, VT 05753

Meeting for Worship 10 AM every First Day
Havarah House, 56 N. Pleasant St. (Rt.7), Middlebury
www.middleburyquakers.org

Please send newsletter submissions to the address above or to
win@wcolwell.com

MIDDLEBURY FRIENDS MEETING

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Editor: Win Colwell

Co-Clerks

Tom Baskett 989-7034
Jean Rosenberg 388-6453

Recording Clerk

Priscilla Baker
388-8024

Treasurer

Karen Nawn-Fahey
PO Box 1026
Middlebury, VT 05753

Pastoral Care Committee

Caring for one another in a loving community is an important part of our life as a Meeting.
Call any member of Pastoral Care to share a concern or need.

Sas Carey (388-1301)
Wendy Goodwin (385-1900)

Norm Tjossem (388-0338)
Brud Leedom (558-1005)

Grace McGrath (388-6576)

We welcome your submissions! — winslow.colwell@gmail.com

News of Quakerly Interest — lucym@shoreham.net